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By his Excellency
Thomas Chittenden Esquire,
Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the State of Vermont

A PROCLAMATION

As divine Beneficence demands Gratitude in Proportion to the Greatness of the Giver and the Unworthiness of the Object: and as we are Sinners, and are liable not only to be deprived of every temporal Good; the Blessings of a Probation State and even of Hope itself; but also to be thrown into Destruction of infinite Duration, and just as durable; — and as the Expressions of Beneficence are greater according to the Number of those who partake thereof; and as it hath pleased Almighty God, in the Course of the year past, to bless the the Inhabitants of this State to so great a Degree with respect to our Agriculture, Health and Peace, and Privileges both Civil and Religious; it becomes us as a people to pay to our Creator a common Tribute of Praise and Thanksgiving. I have therefore thought fit, at the Request of the General Assembly and by Advice of Council, to appoint, and I do hereby appoint THURSDAY the TENTH DAY of NOVEMBER next as a Day of PUBLIC THANKSGIVING throughout this State; and I do hereby recommend to Ministers and People of every Denomination of Christians with cheerful Piety and holy Devotion to assemble in their respective Congregations, to give Thanks to our bountiful Creator for the many inestimable Blessings he has been pleased to confer on us in this State, in the Course of the year past particularly; for the general Health and Tranquility by which is so greatly enhanced the Value of the many Necessaries and Conveniences of this Life with which his Mercy has so richly surrounded us; for the Blessings of Government, and of the Gospel — that the Day of Probation and Offers of eternal Life are still continued to us —

notwithstanding all our Ingratitude and Baseness; and that we behold such astonishing Displays of Divine Grace ~~thro~~ through our Lord Jesus Christ to our fallen World.— And may a Sense of our Sins and of the Holiness of our God. at once prevent that (at least) unmeaning Festivity which debaseth Human Nature, and prepare us to relish every good as the Fruit of Sovereign Grace, and to implore a Continuation of the divine Beneficence to us and the World; and especially to super add that Excellence of ~~the~~ Blessings, an Heart to improve every Providence to the Glory and Acceptance of God. the Sum of Perfect and Fountain of Wisdom

All servile Labor is forbidden on said Day

Given under my Hand, in the Council Room at Windsor, this 20th Day of October, in the year of our Lord one Thousand, Seven Hundred and Eighty five — And in the Ninth year of our Independence.

Thomas Chittenden

By his Excellency's Command
Thomas Tolman Secretary

God save the people